ABSTRACT

The subject process comprises providing chemical pulp and an E_{op} and/or E_p aqueous bleaching solution. The E_{op} aqueous bleaching solution comprises a peroxide compound, an oxygen-containing material, sodium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide, in the absence of magnesium sulfate. Alternatively, the E_{op} aqueous chemical solution for bleaching chemical pulp comprises an E_{op} aqueous bleaching solution consisting essentially of a peroxide compound, an oxygen-containing material, sodium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide.

In any case, the chemical pulp is bleached with the E_{op} aqueous bleaching solution to form a bleached chemical pulp. The E_p aqueous bleaching solution comprises a peroxide compound, sodium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide, in the absence of magnesium sulfate. Alternatively, the E_p aqueous bleaching solution consists essentially of a peroxide compound, sodium hydroxide and magnesium hydroxide.

In any case, the chemical pulp is bleached with the E_{op} and/or E_p aqueous bleaching solution to form a bleached chemical pulp as part of an overall chemical pulp bleaching sequence.